

Chapter 1

**Foreword**

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## ***Introduction***

This document presents comments and responses pertaining to the 1997 Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (1997 Draft EIR/EIS) and the 2000 Recirculated EIR/Supplemental EIS (2000 REIR/SEIS) for the Supplemental Water Supply Project, prepared for the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The 1997 Draft EIR/EIS was distributed to the public and agencies for review and comment on November 4, 1997. The 2000 REIR/SEIS was distributed to the public and agencies on October 6, 2000. These documents, which are available for review at EBMUD's and Reclamation's offices listed on the cover sheet, include a description of the proposed project, an assessment of potential effects associated with implementation of the project alternatives, and proposed mitigation measures aimed at avoiding or reducing significant environmental effects.

Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS were received at a series of public hearings held in December 1997 in communities within the project area including Oakland, Galt, Lodi, the Rosemont neighborhood in East Sacramento, and Downtown Sacramento. Comments were also received in letters and other written materials submitted during the public comment period. The comment period on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS began on November 4, 1997 and was extended twice before its final expiration on March 19, 1998. Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS were received in two public hearings held in October 2000 in Sacramento and Oakland. Comments were also received in letters and other written materials submitted during the public comment period. The comment period on the 2000 REIR/SEIS began on October 6, 2000 and ended on November 20, 2000.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations require the lead agencies to respond to comments received during the comment period. This document has been prepared pursuant to these requirements. This response to comments document, together with the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS and the 2000 REIR/SEIS, constitutes the Final EIR/EIS for the Supplemental Water Supply Project.

## ***Organization of This Summary of Comments and Responses***

Comment letters are presented in their entirety, followed by responses. Each comment within each letter has been marked and numbered. Oral comments received during the public hearings have been paraphrased for clarity and are not included verbatim.

Chapter 3 of this document contains detailed responses to key issues raised during the comment periods. Comment letters and responses are organized by the category of commentaries, for example, comments received from federal agencies, state and local agencies, etc. The responses generally provide clarification of the materials in the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS and 2000 REIR/SEIS; however, they occasionally include changes or additions to the text of these documents. The document is organized as follows:

**Volume I:**

- Chapter 1–Foreword
- Chapter 2–Project Update
- Chapter 3–Major Issue Responses
- Chapter 4–List of Comments Received on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 5–Federal Agency Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 6–State and Local Agency Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 7–Special Interest Group Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 8–Individuals’ Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 9–Form Letter Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 10–Public Hearing Comments on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 11–Letters Received in Support of Project
- Chapter 12–Errata on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS
- Chapter 13–Summary from the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS and 1997 Draft EIR/EIS Distribution List

**Volume II:**

- Chapter 14–List of Comments Received on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 15–Federal Agency Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 16–State and Local Agency Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 17–Special Interest Group Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 18–Individuals’ Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 19–Public Hearing Comments on the 2000 REIR/SEIS
- Chapter 20–Summary from the 2000 REIR/SEIS and 2000 REIR/SEIS Distribution List
- Appendix A–Draft Amendatory Contract
- Appendix B–Additional Hydrologic Modeling Information
- Appendix C–Reclamation Needs Analysis
- Appendix D–Letter from Department of Health Services

***Guide for Review***

Chapter 4 provides a list of comments received on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS, and Chapter 14 provides a list of the comments received on the 2000 REIR/SEIS. Both lists indicate the numbering system used to organize comment letters. A total of 375 comment letters were received on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS, and 36 were received on the 2000 REIR/SEIS. The

following key presents the code and numbering system used to identify written comments received.

### Comment Code Key (Written Comments)

#### 1997 Draft EIR/EIS

F = federal agency comment

S = state agency comment

L = local agency comment

Sp = comment by a special interest group

Ind = comment by an individual

FORM = form letters

#### 2000 REIR/SEIS

RF = federal agency comment

RS = state agency comment

RL = local agency comment

RSp = comments by a special interest group

RInd = comment by an individual

#### Examples:

Ind 1-1 Individual, comment on 1997 Draft EIR/EIS, letter #1 from those sent by individuals, first comment in letter

RInd 2-2 Individual, comment on 2000 REIR/SEIS, letter #2 from those sent individuals, second comment in letter

Chapters 10 and 19 contain responses to oral comments received during the public hearings on the 1997 Draft EIR/EIS and the 2000 REIR/SEIS, respectively. The following key explains the code and numbering system used for oral comments presented at the public hearings.

### Comment Code Key (Oral Comments)

#### 1997 Draft EIR/EIS

PHO = pub. hearing, Oakland (12/1/97)

PHG = pub. hearing, Galt (12/3/97)

PHL = pub. hearing, Lodi (12/4/97)

PHR = pub. hearing, Sacramento/Rosemont (12/9/97)

PHS = pub. hearing, Sacramento (12/11/97)

#### 2000 REIR/SEIS

RPHO = pub. hearing, Oakland (10/19/00)

RPHS = pub. hearing, Sacramento (10/17/00)

#### Examples:

PHO1-1 = Public hearing on 1997 Draft EIR/EIS, Oakland, first speaker, first by speaker.

RPHS 2-1 = Public hearing on 2000 REIR/SEIS, Sacramento, second speaker, comment by speaker.

Chapter 11 identifies letters received in support of the project. Each of these letters is labeled according to the comment code described above. For instance, the codes for letters expressing support for the project from local agencies begin with the letter "L" (i.e., L 24, L 25, L 26).